

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. (Amended) A method for controlling data in an apparatus (302), comprising:
  - (a) a process to make a copy in said apparatus from an original data,
  - (b) a process to check a valid date of said copy in response to a request for said data from an operator or a program, and to send said copy to said operator or program if said copy is valid, otherwise to generate a new copy in said apparatus by reading in the latest original data from an apparatus holding said original data and to send said copy to said operator or program, and
  - (c) a process to revise (722) a record of corresponding valid date by receiving (713) an instruction for revising a valid date of a copy .
2. (Amended) The method for controlling data according to Claim 1, comprising:
  - (d) a process for receiving (501) and recording (511) "a designation of an original data, a distinguish data for version of the original data, and a valid date" corresponding to said copy, and
  - (e) a process to find (716) a copy corresponding to both said "designation of an original data" and said "distinguish data for version of the original data", which are received (713) to revise (722) corresponding valid date of said copy.
3. (Amended) The method for controlling data according to Claim 2, comprising:
  - (f) a process to find (718) copies of data, which matches said "designation of an original data" and of which versions are equal or earlier than "distinguish data for version of original data", and to revise (722) corresponding valid dates.

4. (Deleted)

5. (Deleted)

6. (Deleted)

7. (Deleted)

8. (Deleted)

9. (Amended) The method for controlling data according to Claim 1, comprising:

- (g) a process to send a "designation of an original data" to an apparatus (305) for controlling valid date of the original data, and to receive (713) instructions for revising valid date, of which original data are covered by said "designation of an original data".

10. (Deleted)

11. A method, to controlling valid date of data, for apparatus (305) notifying revision of valid date in distributed processing system, comprising:

- (j) a process (1004,1005) to record a control label containing "a designation of an original data, a distinguish data for version of original data, and a valid date", and to record a recording date/time of said control label.
- (k) a process (1102, 1105, 1111, 1113) to retrieve control labels, which are corresponding to a designation of an original data specified by an apparatus using copies of original data, and of which recording date/time is later than that specified by said apparatus using copies of original data.

12. (Amended) An apparatus (302) to make a copy of an original data, to check a valid date of said copy in response to a request for said data from an operator or a program, and to send said copy to said operator or program if said copy is valid, otherwise to generate a new copy in said apparatus by reading in the latest original data from an apparatus holding said original data and to send said copy to said operator or program, comprising:

- (h) a communication control unit (402) receiving (713) a instruction to revising said valid date of said copy, and
- (i) a web data control unit (410) operating processes to receiving (501) and recording (511) “a designation of an original data, a distinguish data for version of original data, and a valid date”, and to revise (716, 718, 722) records of valid dates if corresponding version is younger than said received version.

13. (Deleted)

14. An apparatus (305) for notifying revision of valid date in distributed processing system, comprising:

- (j) “a reception unit for revised control label” (903) that
  - records “designation of original data, version distinguish data, and valid date” of which the valid date is revised, and registered time, and,
  - searches among these records and retrieves records corresponding to designation of original data indicated by an apparatus (302) using a copy of original data, and sending said retrieved records to said apparatus (302).

15. (Amended) A computer-readable media recording a program realizing a method for controlling data in an apparatus (302), comprising;

- (a) a process to make a copy in said apparatus from an original data,
- (b) a process to check a valid date of said copy in response to a request for said data from an operator or a program, and to send said copy to said operator or program if said copy is valid, otherwise to generate a new copy in said apparatus by reading in the latest original data from an apparatus holding said original data and to send said copy to said operator or program,
- (c) a process to revise (722) a record of corresponding valid date by receiving (713) an instruction for revising a valid date of a copy ,
- (d) a process for receiving (501) and recording (511) “a designation of an

original data, a distinguish data for version of the original data, and a valid date” corresponding to said copy, and

- (e) a process to find (716) a copy corresponding to both said “designation of an original data” and said “distinguish data for version of the original data”, which are received (713) to revise (722) corresponding valid date of said copy.

16. (Deleted)

17. (Amended) A computer-readable media recording a program realizing a method of apparatus (305) notifying revision of valid date to an apparatus (302) using a copy of original data in distributed processing system, comprising:

- (q) a process

- to records “designation of original data, version distinguish data, and valid date” of which valid date is revised, and to record a recording date/time of them,

- to search among records and retrieves records corresponding to designation of original data indicated by an apparatus (302) using copies of original data, and

- to sending retrieved records to said apparatus (302).